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Springfield

Feb. 1854

REPORT.

DISBURSEMENTS.

MONEY PAID FOR SCHOOLING.

District No. 1,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$68.80
" " 2,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19.66
" " 3,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39.30
" " 4,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32.17
" " 5,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33.95
" " 6,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25.92
" " 7,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11.62
" " 8,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39.30
" " 9,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29.49
" " 10,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56.29
" " 11,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22.33
" " 12,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19.66
" " 13,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.36
" " 14,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25.90
Boyes & Abbott,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.25
For School Money outstanding, March, 1853,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22.80
Total,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	458.80

PAID FOR EXPENSE OF PAUPERS.

For Moses C. Heath and family,	204.66
" Jonathan Stevens,	52.00
" Mrs. Muzey,	20.80
" Margaret Twiss,	38.48
" Mrs. Page,	41.86
" Abraham Quimby and wife,	60.00
" Biley Hardy and wife, for 1852,	53.00
	470.80

Paid for funeral expenses of Alice Russell and Simon C. George, and Dr. V. Manahan's bill for same,	15.87
" Levi F. Hill for digging graves for paupers,	5.00

PAID FOR THE EXPENSE OF COUNTY PAUPERS.

Jonathan S. George, for Wm. H. Rodgers,	59.11
Wm. Washburn, for B. S. Thurston,	12.26
John Randall, for William Hopkins,	21.00
Dr. V. Manahan, for attending said Hopkins,	6.50
	98.87

NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATE LIBRARY

PAID FOR THE EXPENSE OF THOMAS COLCORD.

To John Peters,	38.00
To Dr. V. Manahan,	5.00
Funeral expenses,	6.75
	<hr/> 49.75

MINISTER MONEY.

Paid Christian Society, west house,	4.21
Christian " center,	4.55
Universalist "	6.07
Methodist "	5.98
Methodist " for 1852,	6.39
Christian " for 1852,	8.52
Congregational from 1845 to 1854, inclusive,	6.52
	<hr/> \$42.24

Wm. E. Melendy, for services in making report for Feb., 1853,	1.00
Wm. E. Melendy, for damage appraised to Orra C. Howard, on Jeremiah Stevens' road,	14.00
Jephthah Russell, for labor on his Road,	21.69
Jeremiah Stevens, for building Road agreeable to his contract with the selectmen for 1852,	70.00
	<hr/> 106.69

Jacob H. Stevens, for plank for bridge,	5.00
James Dickey, for labor and plank,	8.25
William S. Sholes, for labor on road,	2.25
Jonathan Loverin, for repairing,	2.28
Timo. Davis, for one pew, No. 22,	1.00
Otis Hazelton, for repairing bridge,	7.34
Wm. Osborn, for one pew, No. 32,	1.00
Gilman Sawyer, for plank, and pew No. 24,	2.08
Corydon Rose, for repairing road,	5.00
John Noyes, for plank and labor,	1.00
Francis George, for labor and plank, in 1852,	5.75
	<hr/> \$40.95

Austin Loverin, for completing job on road, and building bank wall, and putting up railing on New-London road,	20.00
B. F. Goss, for plank and timber for bridge near Wm. Stocker's,	7.80
Lewis H. Goss, for painting guide-boards,	2.50
Thos. Eastman, for labor on road in 1852,	1.00
	<hr/> 31.30
Joseph Davis, jr., for note and interest,	122.69
" " " for enrolling the militia,	3.00
	<hr/> 125.69

Joel Whittemore, debt and interest,	739.85
Tripp & Osgood, for printing town reports for 1852, and express bill,	9.88
Rufus Merrill, for record book,	3.50
	<hr/> 753.23

B. F. Symonds, for completing job on road,	25.26
Silas Rollins, for completing his job,	19.00
Barsheba Woodard, for road damage,	20.00
Enos Morrill, do.,	8.00
John Morrill, jr., do.,	5.00
Enoch Gordon, do., Asa Chase's road,	3.00
Asa Chase, jr., for road damage and interest,	77.85
	<hr/> 158.11

J. D. Hemphill, for damage sustained in consequence of breaking through bridge,	12.00
Daniel F. Johnson, for damage to horse by breaking through bridge,	10.00
C. G. Jackman, for damage on wagon in consequence of his horse breaking through bridge,	5.00
	<hr/> 27.00

Joseph Nichols, for chairs for town-house, and 1½ pews in meeting-house,	4.75
Samuel Stevens, half pew, No. 25,	.50
Benja. Colby, half pew, No. 6,	.50
Merrill & Johnson, for Israel Smith, pew No. 35,	1.00
A. J. Kidder, for carding wool in 1851,	2.11
	<hr/> 8.86

Michael M. Davis, for labor and plank on New-London road,	3.87
Sam Colby, for repairing the turnpike,	9.60
John Nichols, for building bridge, and one pew, No. 2,	7.27
Jonathan B. Smith, for labor on road in 1852,	1.50
	<hr/> 22.24

Daniel N. Adams, for services as school committee, and a committee to regulate school districts,	19.75
John C. Nichols, for services as a school committee,	8.00
R. F. Sanborn, for services as a school committee,	8.75
	<hr/> 36.50

Samuel Quimby, for services as town-clerk,	10.00
“ “ for recording thirty marriages, births and deaths,	1.80
“ “ for paying Dr. V. Manahan, for list of births and deaths,	1.20

" " for services as town treasurer,	5.00	
		18.00
John C. Nichols, for making return of soldiers,	2.00	
" " " for abatement of taxes for 1850,	3.00	
		5.00
Amasa S. Abbott, for services as a committee to regulate school districts, and repairing bridge,	3.75	
Kneeland Stocker, for services as a committee to regulate school districts, and for labor on road in 1852,	4.00	
		7.75
Ezra Pillsbury, for labor on road,	2.62	
Elihu Chase, for moving wall as by contract made with the selectmen in 1852,	1.58	
		4.20
Benja. Perley, for services as a committee on the Washburn road,	1.50	
Daniel S. Perley, for services as a committee on the Washburn road,	1.50	
Jason Sanders, for plank in 1850,	1.29	
Sargent Heath, for plank,	.50	
Samuel Stevens, for plank,	1.00	
Richard Sanborn, for services in surveying; for cash paid for lock for town-house and collector's book,	4.55	
		10.34
Daniel S. Perley, for school-house tax in District No. 12,	42.00	
James Boyes, for building road near Robert Osborn's,	43.64	
Jeremiah Quimby, 2d, for taking care of the town-house, and wood for town-meetings in '53 and '54,	3.68	
Dr. Johnson, for pew in meeting-house,	1.00	
Moses Noyes, for pew No. 17,	1.00	
Willis Hardy, for pew No. 26,	1.00	
		92.32
Benjamin F. Goss, for paying State and county taxes,	304.20	
non-resident highway taxes,	13.45	
for collecting taxes,	17.36	
for half pew, No. 6,	.50	
		335.51
Samuel Quimby, services as selectman :		
1½ day on pauper cases,	1.50	

2 days at Concord, to see about M. C. Heath's family,	2.00
for going to Enfield to settle pauper debt,	.50
for going to Salisbury to pay Whittemore debt,	2.00
to 5 days taking inventory,	5.00
5 days making taxes,	5.00
1 day making school-house tax in district No. 12,	1.00
2 days at Concord, moving M. C. Heath's family,	2.00
Making report on Robert Osborn road,	.50
1 day on pauper case, Abram Quimby,	1.00
“ “ “ William Hopkins,	1.00
One half day, do., Thos. Colcord,	.50
1 day examining Washburn road,	1.00
One half day accepting job on Brown road,	.50
1 day laying Jephthah Russell's road, and making report,	1.00
One half day making papers for appointing collector for 1852,	.50
Half day on Silas Rollins' road,	.50
1 day laying Washburn road,	1.00
Making report for the same,	.50
1 day, pauper case, Abram Quimby,	1.00
$\frac{1}{2}$ day warning town-meeting,	.50
1 day on pauper case, Jed. Philbrick,	1.00
Going to New-London on pauper case,	1.00
Time spent settling with J. D. Hemphill,	.75
$\frac{1}{2}$ day attending school-meeting, district No. 10,	.50
1 day on pauper case, Jed. Philbrick,	1.00
1 day to Enfield, on pauper case,	1.00
To paying for one quire of paper,	.20
$\frac{1}{2}$ day, pauper case,	.50
1 day regulating juror-box, and making orders,	1.00
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ day at the hearing, School District No. 9,	1.50
1 day, pauper case, J. Philbrick,	1.00
1 day making school-house tax, Dist. No. 10,	1.00
$\frac{1}{2}$ day on pauper case, S. C. George,	.50
$\frac{1}{2}$ day settling town business with S. Colcord,	.50
To paying postage on 17 letters, two bottles of ink,	.61
$\frac{1}{2}$ day, pauper case, B. L. Thurstin,	.50
2 days, settling up,	2.00
1 day making report for printing,	1.00
1 day warning town-meeting,	1.00
	<hr/>
	45.06

B. F. Goss, for services as selectman :	
$\frac{1}{2}$ day on town business,	.50
4 days taking inventory,	4.00
6 days making taxes,	6.00
1 day on the Washburn road,	1.00
To selling and accepting the Osborn road,	1.50

1 day laying Washburn road,	1.00
To attending jurors' meeting,	.50
$\frac{1}{2}$ day, pauper case,	.50
1 day making out orders,	1.00
To keeping School Commissioner,	1.00
$2\frac{1}{2}$ days at the hearing, district No. 9,	2.50
1 day making tax for district No. 10,	1.00
Attending jurors' meeting,	.50
2 days, settling up,	2.00
1 day making report for printing,	1.00
1 day warning town-meeting,	1.00
	<hr/> 25.00

Sam Colby, for services as selectman :

$\frac{1}{2}$ day on town business,	.50
$\frac{1}{2}$ day, pauper case,	.50
$\frac{1}{2}$ day on town business,	.50
5 days taking inventory,	5.00
$5\frac{1}{2}$ days making taxes,	5.50
$\frac{1}{2}$ day on pauper case,	.50
Postage on two letters,	.06
To going to Sunapee on pauper case,	.75
$\frac{1}{4}$ day, on pauper case,	.25
1 day, examining Washburn road,	1.00
$\frac{1}{2}$ day on Brown road,	.50
$\frac{1}{2}$ day on Jephthah Russell road,	.50
$\frac{1}{2}$ day on Silas Rollins road,	.50
1 day laying Washburn road,	1.00
Warning town-meeting, attending juror meeting,	.75
$\frac{1}{2}$ day accepting Jeremiah Stevens road,	.50
$\frac{1}{2}$ day, pauper case,	.50
1 day to Canaan, on town business,	1.00
Team and expenses,	1.50
1 day regulating juror box and making orders,	1.00
$1\frac{1}{2}$ day at hearing, district No. 9,	1.50
1 day, on pauper case,	1.00
$\frac{1}{2}$ day on town business at S. Colcord's,	.50
$\frac{1}{2}$ day, on pauper case,	.34
2 days settling up,	2.00
1 day making report for printing,	1.00
1 day warning town-meeting,	1.00
	<hr/> 29.65

Adams & Nichols, for services as auditor, 2.00

Total amount paid out by the Selectmen,	3026.75
Now due on collector's bond for 1853,	241.93
Balance of cash in the hands of the Selectmen,	59.27

3327.95

The selectmen have received the following sums :

Amount of taxes assessed for the year 1853, including non-resident highway tax, and school-house tax in district No. 12,	1929.74
Cash received on collector's bond for 1852,	454.94
Cash borrowed of Samuel Quimby to pay Joel Whittemore debt,	739.85
Received of Wm. Moran, literary fund for 1853,	76.90
Received of J. B. Harvey, for tax not in his book,	1.00
Cash received for use of town-house,	3.00
Cash received of Samuel Colcord, for the support of Thomas Colcord,	49.75
Received of the county for the support of paupers,	71.37
Received of Wm. Washburn, for watch sold at auction,	1.40
Total amount of receipts,	<u>\$3327.95</u>

The outstanding debts against the town are as follows :

Due Sophia Colby, on note,	164.00
Samuel Quimby, on two notes,	1801.00
Frances S. Fuller, on note,	275.00
Due for the support of B. Hardy and wife,	52.00
Other small demands, amounting perhaps to	30.00
Total amount of debts,	<u>\$2322.00</u>

Available funds belonging to the town, are as follows :

Due on collector's bond for 1853, estimated good,	215.00
Cash on hand,	59.27
Due from the town of Enfield or the county of Sullivan, for the support of a pauper,	27.50
Due on collector's bond for 1852,	5.00
	<u>306.77</u>

Leaving the town actually in debt, \$2015.23

Reducing the town debt of last year \$55.

All which is respectfully submitted.

SAMUEL QUIMBY,	} <i>Selectmen of Springfield.</i>
BENJAMIN F. GOSS,	
SAM COLBY,	

REPORT

Of Superintending School Committee of Springfield, for 1853.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

Summer School was kept by Miss Sophronia V. Vaughan. Length of School, 8 weeks. Average attendance, 37. Miss Vaughan is one of the best teachers. She labored in season and out of season for the benefit of her scholars, and a very decided improvement was made. More than usual improvement was attained in all the studies, particularly reading and geography. By the exertions of the teacher and scholars a set of Outline Maps was procured for the district, and much benefit has been derived therefrom. Singing was introduced into this School.

Winter Term, of 8 weeks, was kept by F. P. Nichols. Average attendance, 28. This School was well conducted, the scholars were thoroughly drilled, and a good improvement in most of the studies was made, particularly in reading and arithmetic. This School is perhaps second to none in point of reading. The school-house in this district is getting old and out of repair, and ought to be attended to.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

There was no Summer School in this District.

The Winter School was under the care of R. Freeman Sanborn who succeeded in interesting the scholars in their studies, so that they made good improvement. Length of School, 6 weeks. Average attendance, 16.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

Summer Term, of six weeks, under the care of Miss A. A. Thystle. Average number of scholars attending, 21. In a School of 6 weeks

it cannot be expected that a very great improvement can be made; and yet in some of the classes good progress was made. A small class in grammar had done well, and some small scholars, who had just begun to read, did exceedingly well. The discipline was rather lenient. A little more firmness would be better.

Winter School was kept by Miss Gordon. Length of School, 9 weeks. Average attendance of scholars, 20. This was her first school, and she certainly bids fair to make a very good teacher, being systematic and thorough in her method. The improvement was satisfactory. Recitations prompt and clear.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

The Summer School was taught by Miss Choate. One class in geography did remarkably well. In the other branches but little improvement was made. Length of School, 5 weeks. Average attendance, 18.

The Winter School was kept by Mr. S. T. Choate. The report of the Summer School will answer equally as well for the Winter School. Length of School, 4 weeks. Average attendance, 20. Both teachers were well qualified in the branches they were required to teach, but lacked in energy.

DISTRICT NO. 5.

The Summer Term was under the care of Miss E. W. Johnson.—The School appeared well. Its government and mode of instruction met the hearty approbation of the committee. Length of School, 10 weeks. Average attendance, 24.

The Winter School was under the charge of Mr. Chas. McDaniels. This School was marked by excellent order, and by good interest taken by the scholars generally in their studies. Length of School, 9 weeks. Average attendance, 24. Contributed, board and fuel, \$37.00.

DISTRICT NO. 6.

No Summer School. The Winter School was under the care of Miss Ruth S. Chesley. The Teacher in this School aimed to do her duty, and in many respects secured a good School. The frequency of recitations secured in a measure the benefits of a longer school. But there was a lack of funds in this District on account of the school

money being divided according to scholars. Length of School, 6½ weeks. Average attendance, 20.

DISTRICT NO. 7.

No Summer School. The Winter School is under the care of Mr. H. F. Goss. This School has just commenced, and will probably be about 5 weeks. Whole number of scholars in the district, 13. School is keeping at a private house.

DISTRICT NO. 8.

The Summer School was taught by Miss Asenath E. Taylor. This School made great improvement, especially in reading and pronunciation. The teacher spared no pains in making the School interesting and profitable. Length of School, 7 weeks. Average attendance, 32.

The Winter Term was taught by Mr. S. H. Jackman. This school appeared remarkably well. The teacher and scholars were well united in trying to do their best, and good improvement was the result of their efforts. This district may consider themselves highly favored this year in obtaining such excellent teachers. Length of School, 8 weeks. Average attendance, 32. Amount contributed in board and fuel, \$21.00.

DISTRICT NO. 9.

Summer Term, of about 8 weeks, was kept by Miss Emily Gates. A very good improvement in reading was made by nearly all the classes, and considerable progress in arithmetic and grammar. The school register for this school has not been returned to the committee. The number of scholars was 17. Average attendance, unknown.

The Winter Term was under the charge of Mr. John C. Nichols. This School was marked by excellent order and by decided interest taken by the scholars in their studies. The teacher in this school succeeded in making his scholars earnest and diligent in their studies.— There was no class but what made decided progress during the term, (which was short.) But there was a lack. A lack for what? A lack for funds to prolong the school, and a better school-house.— Length of School, 4 weeks. Average attendance, 17. Amount contributed in board and fuel, 9.00.

DISTRICT NO. 10.

The Summer School was under the care of Miss Crooker. The committee of this division, for some cause not being notified of the

commencement and close of the School, is unable to report the School only from the register. Length of the School, 8 weeks. Average attendance, 42.

The Winter Term was under the charge of Mr. D. C. Eastman.—The scholars of this school showed that they had made decided progress in their studies. The first class in arithmetic, and the classes in reading deserve special mention. If the small pupils in this school could have been taught the art of obedience, it would have been an improvement. School has kept 13 weeks, and still keeping. Average attendance, about 46. Amount contributed in board and fuel, \$24.00.

DISTRICT NO. 11.

Summer Term taught by Miss Lydia I. Hill. This School made very good improvement in all the branches taught. Length of School, 6 weeks. Average attendance, 12.

The Winter Term was taught by Mr. D. H. Adams. This School was well conducted on the part of the teacher. The scholars were studious and attentive, and made good improvement. Length of School, 8 weeks. Average attendance, 19.

DISTRICT NO. 12.

The School in this district, under the charge of Miss Susan A. McAlvin, commenced in May and closed in October, with a vacation of four weeks. The scholars in this district are nearly all small. A very good improvement was manifest in this School. Some of the scholars that were learning their letters at the commencement were at the close able to read in reading. A class in Mitchell's Primary Geography could answer nearly all the questions in the book. There is, perhaps, no district in town where the inhabitants are doing more for schooling than this. They have a good house, and have contributed in tuition, board and fuel, more than \$40.00; which, with about \$24 public money, has enabled them to sustain a first rate School of 26 weeks. Average attendance, 14. The singing in this School was quite interesting.

DISTRICT NO. 14.

Summer Term, of six weeks, was taught by Miss Amanda Quimby. In reading and spelling, considering the length of the School, a good

improvement was made. Some of the scholars had made more progress than is usual in so short a time. Average attendance, 14.

The Winter Term was commenced by Miss Susan A. McAlvin, who was soon obliged to leave it on account of sickness in her father's family. The remainder of the school was under the care of Miss Ann E. Wiggins, who is in fact a pretty good teacher. She succeeded in getting up quite an interest among her scholars. Her method of managing a School is prompt and energetic. The house in this district is badly constructed and badly located. Length of School, 12 weeks. Average attendance, 20. Amount contributed in board and fuel, \$21.

The whole length of public schools in town, is $174\frac{1}{2}$ weeks;—82 in summer, and $92\frac{1}{2}$ in winter. All the summer schools, and $27\frac{1}{2}$ weeks in winter was kept by females. The whole amount contributed in wood, board and tuition, is \$167, which is a little more than was given last year.

The committee think that our schools, on the whole, were never in a better condition. There has been no difficulty in any of the schools that has come to the knowledge of the committee the past year. There are, however, some very serious inconveniences attending our schools. Nearly or quite one half of our school-houses are totally unfit for use. Some of them open and cold, and some so badly constructed that it is almost impossible to manage a school decently in them. We think this evil will in a great measure be remedied before long. School District No. 10 has made arrangements to build a very nice house early next season; and the committee have good reason to believe that at least two other districts will build houses in the course of the present year. Arrangements have been made the past year to unite or form districts 4, 11 and 13 into two districts, which it is hoped will prove satisfactory. There was no school house in No. 13, and very poor houses in Nos. 4 and 11, and if they will take hold and build two good houses, the scholars at least will be much benefited.

If there had never been more than ten school districts in town, it would have been far better; but it may, perhaps, be difficult now to get them less than twelve.

We think districts generally have been fortunate in securing the services of good teachers the past year. There has been, the committee think, as much exertion on the part of the teachers as ever was manifested in any one year since they have been acquainted with the schools. Still there are some defects. One great defect in the

instruction of our schools, is want of thoroughness. This is owing in part to the prevailing idea that a child's progress in its studies is to be measured by the amount gone over, and not by his understanding of the subject; in part, also, by the anxiety of scholars to go through their text books before the term closes; but most of all to the teachers themselves. They are often too defective in a thorough mastery of the elements of knowledge. Without this thoroughness, there can be no proper discipline of the mind. The scholar can never learn to think in a clear and connected manner. His learning will always be superficial. He may be able to repeat the rules of arithmetic, but the reason or necessity of those rules he will not see. He may solve the problems in the text book, but be unable to explain them to another; hence, unable to apply them in the daily occurrences of life.

DANIEL N. ADAMS, } *Superintending*
JOHN C. NICHOLS, } *School*
R. FREEMAN SANBORN, } *Committee.*

Springfield, Feb. 22, 1854.